



## **WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING ABOUT AMERICA'S FOCUS ACT**

"All leaders in the youth development field applaud Congressman Fattah's longtime commitment to strengthening America's future competitiveness by investing in critical education initiatives today. STEM education, coupled with youth mentoring, will make a dramatic impact in preparing today's youth to enter the fields of science, technology and engineering, where unfortunately America is lagging behind many other nations. Twenty years from now the return on this investment will reflect the wisdom of the FOCUS Act and its visionary proponents."

***- Jim Clark, President and CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA)***

"The National Association of Counties (NACo) today applauded introduction of revenue-neutral legislation that would provide additional resources for three existing and effective federal grant programs. NACo said the revenue-neutral legislation is a sensible approach to make valuable investments into existing and effective federal grant programs that many counties and communities rely on to help meet the needs of the American people."

***-National Association of Counties (NACo)***

"Big Brothers Big Sisters of America is grateful to Congressman Fattah for his continued support and commitment to mentoring services. Congressman Fattah has been a champion of Big Brothers Big Sisters' work to provide long-term professionally supported mentoring programs for children facing adversity and services to their volunteer mentors and families that contributes to successful youth outcomes. The America's FOCUS Act would channel existing funds to our most valuable asset: our children and enable us to expand our reach, helping more children overcome adversity to succeed in school and life."

***-Charles Pierson, President and CEO, Big Brothers Big Sisters***

"We all play a part in the success of our communities. Working together with local partners, United Ways around the country are recruiting readers, tutors and mentors to fundamentally change the trajectory of the lives of young people and their families. United Way Worldwide is grateful to Congressman Chaka Fattah for his tireless commitment to mentoring services for all our children."

***-Stacey D. Stewart, U.S. President of United Way Worldwide***

"The National Urban League applauds Rep. Chaka Fattah for crafting an innovative solution that's a win-win for youth and underserved populations – and for the American taxpayer. The America's FOCUS Act prepares our nation's young people to compete and succeed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy and supports medical research and criminal justice reform efforts, without adding to the deficit. Rep. Fattah has been a tireless fighter for jobs and economic empowerment for urban communities and vulnerable populations—especially youth—and this bill underscores his long-standing commitment. The America's FOCUS Act of 2013 is a commonsense measure that will benefit all of these groups and help America maintain its leadership in the global economy. We look forward to working with Rep. Fattah to secure additional support for this important bill."

***-Marc H. Morial, President and CEO, National Urban League***

"We appreciate Congressman Fattah's innovative approach to addressing vital youth development and community needs through introduction of the America's FOCUS Act."

***- Neal Denton, Senior Vice President and Chief Government Affairs Officer at Y-USA.***

“Congressman Fattah is a long-standing champion for quality youth mentoring programs. He recognizes that investments in quality mentoring programs provide essential connections that are building blocks for success at school, in the community, and ultimately in the workforce. MENTOR knows that a sustained commitment to helping all youth realize their full potential will benefit communities, the overall U.S. economy and our nation’s competitiveness around the world. This is why we strongly support the America’s FOCUS Act and thank Congressman Fattah for his ongoing commitment to investing in quality youth mentoring programs and ultimately our next generation of leaders.”

***-David Shapiro, President and CEO of MENTOR: National Mentoring Partnership***

“The First Tee is pleased to support America's FOCUS Act. The new legislation currently before Congress aims to support targeted educational initiatives that will increase the preparedness of American students and help enhance the nation’s competitive edge.”

***-The First Tee***